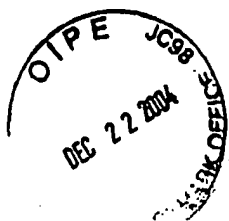


IFW AF



Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07883.0111

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Robert Edward KOHLER et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3731
	)	
Application No.: 10/052,156	)	Examiner: U. T. HO
	)	
Filed: January 16, 2002	)	
	)	
For: ENCASED IMPLANT AND	)	Confirmation No.: 1036
METHODS	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enter  
on  
1/7/05

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the final Office Action mailed September 23, 2004, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.